United Nations A/60/557–S/2005/721

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 November 2005

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda item 19
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 14 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 10 November 2005, addressed to you by Mr. Reşat Çağlar, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, forwarding the letter of Mr. Serdar R. Denktaş, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of Mr. Denktaş's letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Baki **İlkin**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

05-60659 (E) 171105

Annex to the letter dated 14 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of the letter dated 2 November 2005 addressed to you by Mr. Serdar R. Denktaş, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Reşat **Çağlar**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Enclosure

I would like to bring to your kind attention an unfortunate provocative incident that took place yesterday when the Greek Cypriot parliamentarian, Marios Matsakis, who is also a member of the European Parliament, removed the Turkish flag from an unmanned observation post in Akincilar village, violating also the integrity of the buffer zone in the course of his hostile action.

This was an act of provocation against the Turkish Cypriot side and can clearly be explained by the ongoing escalation of hostility of the Greek Cypriot side towards the Turkish Cypriots. Matsakis may also be trying to weather his own troubles by diverting attention from charges he is facing regarding blackmail and illicit trade of historical artefacts, which recently culminated in the waiving of his diplomatic immunity by the European Parliament. Nevertheless, he is on record saying that the removal of the flag from the post was in line with his "parliamentary duties".

Attempts to portray this act as an isolated incident fail to convince anyone with the barest knowledge of the Greek Cypriot side's policies fuelling hatred against the Turkish Cypriot people and their consequences, which have been conveyed to you on numerous occasions, most recently by President Talat in his letter dated 12 October 2005. The declaration of 2005 as the "Year for the Remembrance and Honouring of EOKA Liberation Struggle" and the realization of the Nikiforos military exercise in October 2005, after several years of restraint, are just two examples of the Greek Cypriot side's hostile policies.

Acts of provocation and violation of the buffer zone from the Greek Cypriot side do not promote reconciliation, especially at a time when we, on our part, have taken bold steps towards fostering confidence and good-neighbourly relations between the two sides on the island. We feel it our duty to bring to your attention and strongly protest the Greek Cypriot deputy's action. We hope and expect that the United Nations will do more to ensure that the Greek Cypriot side refrains from offensive behaviour, which increases the lack of confidence between the two peoples of the island.

(*Signed*) Serdar R. **Denktaş**
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs